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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE DAILY CABLE
Wednesday 31 May 1978 CG NIDC 78/126C

[Redacted]

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
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State Dept. review completed

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National Intelligence Daily Cable for Wednesday, 31 May 1978

The NID Cable is for the purpose of informing senior US officials.

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USSR-AFGHANISTAN: Soviet Presence

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[REDACTED] //Moscow continues to conclude military and economic agreements with the new Afghan Government and to increase the number of Soviet military advisers in the country. At the same time, the Soviets are warning against outside interference in Afghan affairs, and seem fearful that an attempt at a counter coup cannot be ruled out.//

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[REDACTED] //On 22 May, a high-level Soviet military delegation headed by Lt. General Zotov arrived in Kabul for discussions with the Afghan Defense Ministry that apparently resulted in a new military agreement, the details of which we do not yet know. Zotov was accompanied by a large military and civilian contingent that included six brigadier generals and three colonels. The delegation is reported to have left Kabul on Monday.//

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[REDACTED] //At least 160 additional Soviet military advisers have been sent to the Kabul area since 11 May, bringing the total number of Soviet advisers in Afghanistan to over 500.

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[REDACTED]
The newly arrived advisers have probably been assigned to Afghan field units around Kabul to replace advisers who have been reassigned to other posts in the Afghan Government and military.//

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[REDACTED] //Thus far, the Soviets have been sensitive about their increased presence in Afghanistan and have tried to stress the new regime's independence while playing down the links between Kabul and Moscow. In a recent conversation with a US Embassy official, for example, a Soviet Foreign Ministry officer emphasized that the new Afghan regime intends to pursue a course of nonalignment and economic development like that of India. He further noted that while the new government is embarked on the "socialist road" like much of Africa, it is not Communist but nationalist and democratic.//

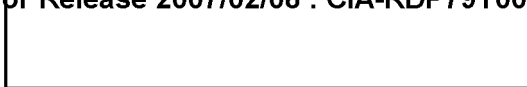
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[REDACTED] //Moscow has, however, made it clear that it considers the survival of the new regime important and would not look kindly upon any other external interference in Afghan affairs. A recent issue of the Soviet magazine *Novoye Vremya*

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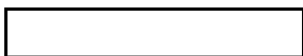
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underscored Soviet support for the new government and warned that Moscow hopes "statesmen in the West, and not only the West" would not support a counterrevolution should it be attempted.//

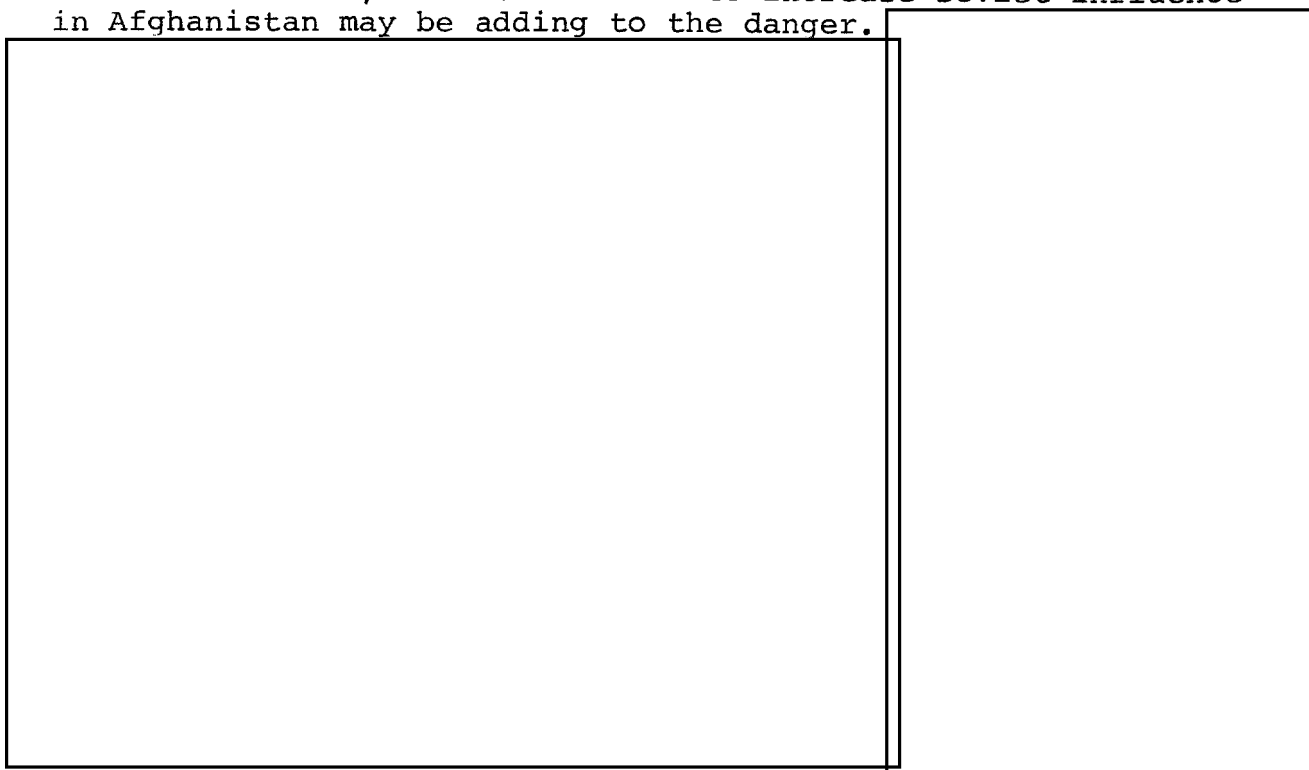
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//Moscow's fears about a counterrevolution may not be unfounded, and its efforts to increase Soviet influence in Afghanistan may be adding to the danger.

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JAPAN: Data Communications Policy

25X1 [] //The Japanese have announced a major policy change that will enhance the opportunity for foreign companies to compete in the Japanese domestic data communications field.//

25X1 [] //The principal change will open to foreign competition the market for data terminals to be used on Japanese communications lines, a market that had been controlled by Nippon Telephone and Telegraph. The policy change reflects the failure of Japanese companies to provide commercially competitive services.//

25X1 [] //Despite Nippon Telephone's continuing efforts to develop large-scale computers in support of data communications services, the company holds only 18 percent of the data communications service market, and little growth is likely. The greatest weakness is in the area of time-sharing services.//

25X1 [] //The opening of the terminal market will not only facilitate foreign competition, but could also be an important factor in Japan's technology strategy. Using the attractiveness of their terminal sales market--expected to exceed \$1 billion annually in the early 1980s--the Japanese may seek in return key technologies, such as operating system software, from time-sharing service companies in the US. [] 25X1



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BRIEFS

RHODESIA

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[REDACTED] Internal leaders of the Zimbabwe African People's Union attracted some 50,000 supporters last weekend to ZAPU's first public rally since Rhodesia's biracial transition government lifted a longstanding ban on ZAPU activities earlier this month. The rally--opposing the internal settlement--was held in Bulawayo, Rhodesia's second largest city and a main center for the Ndebele tribal group from which ZAPU draws most of its support.

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[REDACTED] Speakers asserted that ZAPU leader Joshua Nkomo would not return to Rhodesia to join the internal settlement and urged Prime Minister Smith to join a conference--proposed by the UK and the US--of all the parties to the Rhodesian dispute. ZAPU has considerable support in western Rhodesia and probably will try to stage more rallies. ZAPU's followers consider themselves unrepresented in the transition government.

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UPPER VOLTA

[REDACTED] Upper Voltan Chief of State Sangoule Lamizana, after failing to win an absolute majority in the presidential elections of 14 May, won a convincing victory in a second ballot on Sunday. Lamizana is a pro-Western leader who has controlled the military government for the past 12 years. He is returning the country to civilian rule with the help of civilian deputies elected to the National Assembly on 30 April. [REDACTED]

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